

BOOK REVIEWS

CALIFORNIA MEDICINE does not review all books sent to it by the publishers. A list of new books received is carried in the Advertising Section.

CLINICAL DISORDERS OF IRON METABOLISM—2nd Edition, Revised and Expanded—Virgil F. Fairbanks, M.D., Consultant, Department of Clinical Pathology, Mayo Clinic; Assistant Professor of Medicine, Mayo Graduate School of Medicine (University of Minnesota); Rochester; John L. Fahey, M.D., Senior Physician, Department of Hematology, Division of Medicine, City of Hope Medical Center, Duarte, Ca.; Ernest Beutler, M.D., Chairman, Division of Medicine, and Director, Department of Hematology, City of Hope Medical Center, Duarte, Ca.; Clinical Professor of Medicine, University of Southern California, Los Angeles. Grune & Stratton, Inc., 111 Fifth Avenue, New York City (10003), 1971. 486 pages, \$25.00.

The need for an updated, comprehensive monograph of iron metabolism and associated disease states is readily apparent to anyone in the field of hematology and fortunately this need has been excellently filled with the second edition of this book. The basic format is retained in this edition but all of the chapters have been extensively revised and appropriately lengthened. Emphasis is on more recent publications and this is reflected in the bibliography where 40 percent of the more than 1700 references were published in the eight-year interval between editions. A completely new chapter on sideroblastic anemias has been added. Other chapter titles include iron metabolism, iron deficiency, therapy of iron deficiency, acute iron poisoning, and hemochromatosis. In addition there is an enjoyable chapter on the history of iron in medicine and a rather unique chapter on the syndromes of iron deficient states. Many poorly understood and infrequently well-documented syndromes thought to be related to iron deficient states are discussed in considerable detail.

Taken as a whole, or by individual topics, this book has encyclopedic scope covering, in depth, every facet of iron metabolism. It is clinically oriented containing very practical, clinical information not readily found in other sources and hence is of value to students, residents as well as the practicing physician. For the specialist, this concisely written monograph helps put very conflicting and confusing data, whether old or new, into proper perspective. There are no vague generalities. In some areas where definitive information is lacking, the available data are presented and an editorial objectiveness is maintained.

This fine monograph is recommended to anyone engaged in medical practice or research and to others interested in iron metabolism and related disease states.

THOMPSON ADAMS, M.D.

MANAGEMENT OF JUVENILE DIABETES MELLITUS—2nd Ed.—Howard S. Traisman, M.D., F.A.A.P., Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Northwestern University Medical School; Associate Attending Physician, Division of Endocrinology, and Head of the Diabetes Clinic, Children's Memorial Hospital; Associate Attending Physician, Chicago Wesley Memorial Hospital, Chicago; Attending Physician, Evanston Hospital, Evanston, Illinois. The C. V. Mosby Company, 3207 Washington Blvd., St. Louis, Mo. (63103), 1971. 223 pages, \$19.75.

The challenge with its reward and the frustration with its failure have confronted every physician involved with the management of diabetes mellitus in a young person.

For those who are met with this difficult problem occasionally, a detailed practical approach is needed. This edition meets this need and also blends the concerned approach of a pediatrician who really understands his patient's plight.

The orientation of this book is clinical. The discussion of recent research developments in diabetes (including a chapter on pancreatic transplants) is superficial but adequate. In addition the section on the pathogenesis of diabetes mellitus is unique. Doctor Traisman reveals his deep regard for the importance of diet and dietary instruction by devoting 41 pages to this subject. He includes detailed copies of requisition forms for regular weighed diets, diets for sick days and food tables. These forms and tables leave little to imagination.

The important facets of instruction in the care and understanding of diabetes for the patient and his family is stressed in a chapter which includes information about available educational material, famous diabetics, urine testing, insulin administration, use of glucagon, and what the teacher should know about the diabetic student. Dr. Traisman has included in the appendix "Instructions for students and graduate nurses on routine nursing care of juvenile diabetic patients," instructions on collection of specimens for diabetic urinary tests and instructions to parents of the diabetic child. In this same appendix fluid and electrotype therapy is outlined along with a listing of available sugarless drug preparations.

This book is an excellent guide for the pediatrician and generalist for whom it was designed. My own satisfaction in reviewing this book was to discover a pediatrician whose belief in the importance of carefully controlling blood sugar agreed with my own.

CHARLES H. BRINEGAR, JR., M.D.

* * *

PROGRESS IN NEUROLOGY AND PSYCHIATRY—Volume XXV—Edited by E. A. Spiegel, M.D., Dr. Med. (Hon.), Emeritus Professor and Head of the Department of Experimental Neurology, Temple University School of Medicine, Philadelphia. Grune and Stratton, Inc., 757 Third Avenue, New York, N.Y. (10017), 1970. 495 pages, \$28.75.

This volume consists of a series of reviews of the literature of 1969 in the broad areas of Neurology, Neurosurgery and Psychiatry. Neurology is subdivided into Clinical Neurology, Otoneurology, Epilepsy, the Autonomic Nervous System, etc. The reviews, as such, are really annotated bibliographies and are relatively uncritical in both choice of articles as well as the encapsulated conclusions given for each citation.

The Progress in Neurology and Psychiatry volumes are most useful as a ready source of current bibliographical material; physicians in search of a current reference to a psychological or neurological disorder would do well to have access to them.

NEIL H. RASKIN, M.D.